

November 12, 2024 – Tuesday

Economy

# Net direct tax collection rises 15.4% to Rs 12.1 trn in April-Nov

The Indian government's net direct tax collection grew 15.4 per cent year on year to Rs 12.1 trillion (\$143 billion) during the period April 1-Nov. 10, according to a statement. Direct taxes, which include corporate and personal tax, grew over 21 per cent to Rs 15 trillion on a gross basis during the period, the statement issued by the income tax department said. The government said it had issued tax refunds of Rs 2.9 trillion.

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/net-direct-tax-collection-rises-15-4-to-rs-12-1-trn-in-april-nov-124111101552 1.html

# FM seeks AIIB help for next gen reforms

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday called on the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to widen its investments in climate adaptation and resilience, infrastructure development, energy security and urban development, and also extend its support for India's next generation reforms. Sitharaman, the current governor on the AIIB board, held a meeting with a high-level AIIB delegation in New Delhi.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/fm-seeks-aiib-help-for-next-genreforms/articleshow/115190154.cms

# Union Cabinet likely to approve ELI schemes after Jharkhand and Maharashtra elections

The Union Cabinet is likely to take up the approval of the employment-linked incentive (ELI) schemes after the assembly elections in Jharkhand and Maharashtra are over. Voting in the two states will end on November 20. The ministry of labour and employment, which is planning to roll-out the three ELI schemes before the end of 2024, had moved for the Cabinet nod for consideration and approval two weeks back, people aware of the development told ET.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/union-cabinet-likely-to-approve-eli-schemes-afterjharkhand-and-maharashtra-elections/articleshow/115190127.cms

# Finance

# **RBI issues operational framework for reclassification of FPI to FDI**

The Reserve Bank of India on Monday issued an operational framework for reclassification of investment made by a foreign portfolio investor to foreign direct investment (FDI) if the entity breaches the prescribed limit. Currently, an investment made by foreign portfolio investor along with its investor group (FPI) should be less than 10 per cent of the total paid-up equity capital on a fully diluted basis. Any FPI investing in breach of the prescribed limit has the option of divesting their holdings or reclassifying such holdings as FDI subject to the conditions specified by the RBI and Sebi within five trading days from the date of settlement of the trades causing the breach.

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/rbi-issues-operational-framework-for-reclassification-of-fpi-tofdi-124111100849 1.html

## Plans afoot to put LLPs and cos on par in accounting

The government will likely put in place fresh accounting standards for limited liability partnerships (LLPs), especially large ones with annual turnover exceeding ₹ 250 crore, to align their standards with those applicable to companies and foster greater transparency and accountability, said people aware of the development. <u>https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/plans-afoot-to-put-llps-and-cos-on-par-in-accounting/articleshow/115190027.cms</u>

## Defaults coming back to bite, banks rein in growth of unsecured credit

Stung by high default rates in the personal loan, credit card and microfinance (MFI) portfolios, Indian banks are slashing credit card limits and restricting pre-approved personal loans. Some of the lenders have also reduced loan-to-value (LTV) ratios on mortgage loans, bankers told ET. "We have identified stress segments in our unsecured portfolio based on customer segment, geographies, credit scores and sectors that are showing signs of trouble," said the retail head of a private sector lender. "We have reduced risks in these segments by lowering credit card additions, reducing credit card limits, lowering LTV and keeping away from segments which have thrown up high risk." https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/defaults-coming-back-to-bite-banks-rein-in-growth-of-unsecured-credit/articleshow/115191730.cms

## Do fresh KYC of PM Jan Dhan accounts due for updation: DFS secretary to banks

Financial Services Secretary M Nagaraju on Monday asked banks to carry out fresh KYC (know your customer) process for Jan Dhan accounts which are due for updation. The PMJDY was launched in 2014 and approximately 10.5 crore PMJDY accounts were opened in mission mode during the period from August, 2014 to December 2014. These PMJDY accounts are becoming due for periodic updation or re-KYC now after 10 years. Nagaraju chaired a meeting with all stakeholders for carrying out fresh Know Your Customer (re-KYC) process for the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) account holders, the finance ministry said in a statement.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/do-fresh-kyc-of-pm-jan-dhan-accountsdue-for-updation-dfs-secretary-to-banks/articleshow/115188666.cms

## Simplify T&Cs in insurance policies to cut complaints: Irdai panel member

Insurance companies need to draft the terms and conditions of the policy in a language that is simple and easy-tounderstand, which will help in reducing the grievances of customers, an Irdai advisory committee member said on Monday. Irdai's Insurance Ombudsman Advisory Committee member Pushpa Girimaji also stressed on the need to reduce the number of 'non-entertainable complaints' by the insurance ombudsman. Insurance Ombudsman is a quasi-judicial grievance redressal machinery to resolve complaints of insured persons against life and non-life insurance companies.

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/insurance/simplify-t-cs-in-insurance-policies-to-cut-complaints-irdaipanel-member-12411101022 1.html

#### 'Govt FY25 spends to be in sync with Budget estimates of ₹48.2 lakh cr'

The government's total expenditure in the current fiscal may remain around the budgeted ₹48.2 lakh crore, despite supplementary demands for grants that will be placed for parliamentary approval in the next session, starting November 25, a senior official said. This will help the Centre meet the 2024-25 fiscal deficit goal of 4.9% of gross domestic product, he said. A large part of the additional expenditure demands may be met through savings or enhanced receipts of various ministries and departments, without letting the overall spending to skyrocket, he indicated.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/govt-fy25-spends-to-be-in-sync-with-budgetestimates-of-48-2-lakh-cr/articleshow/115190131.cms

## Industry

## Textile hub Tiruppur weaves a comeback as exports spring back to life

After experiencing an 11 per cent contraction in exports in 2023-24 (FY24) due to a dip in exports for 10 consecutive months from April to January, the Tiruppur textile industry is back on track in 2024-25 (FY25). The cluster, which

contributes 55 per cent of the country's total knitwear exports, posted a 13 per cent increase in the first five months of this financial year (FY25), with August seeing a 22 per cent rise — the highest in over two years. Additionally, global majors like Primark, Tesco, Tommy Hilfiger, Marks & Spencer, and Warner Bros. Discovery Global Consumer Products, among others, are lining up to place orders with manufacturers from this textile city. According to the Tiruppur Exporters' Association (TEA), a major reason for this shift is the Green Tiruppur sustainable strategy adopted by the manufacturing units, which has made the hub more attractive to buyers in the US and Europe. https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/tiruppur-textile-industry-returns-to-growth-posts-13-rise-in-exports-124111101502 1.html

# Rural FMCG basket expands on hybrid media usage, rising digital engagement

A growing preference for convenience products and hybrid media consumption, and a surge in digital engagement have led to a rise in the average basket size for fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) among rural consumers. The average of the rural FMCG basket saw a 60 per cent rise from 5.8 in 2022 to 9.3 in 2024 as it expanded to include convenience products like ready-to-eat packages and beverages, stated the fifth edition of the Rural Barometer Report, brought out jointly by GroupM and Kantar, which surveyed 4,376 rural adults across 20 states. https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/rural-fmcg-basket-expands-on-hybrid-media-usage-rising-

digital-engagement-124111101520 1.html

# Semiconductor sector to create 1 million jobs in India by 2026: Report

As India is moving to become a semiconductor manufacturing hub, the industry is poised to generate 1 million jobs across varied sectors by 2026, a report said on Monday. This demand is expected to be seen in various categories, including an estimated 3,00,000 jobs in chip semiconductor fabrication, around 2,00,000 positions in ATMP (Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging), and additional roles in chip design, software development, system circuits, and manufacturing supply chain management, said a report by talent solutions company NLB Services. https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/semiconductor-sector-to-create-1-million-jobs-in-india-by-2026-report-124111101513 1.html

# FSSAI looking to develop SOP for online food deliveries for quick commerce, e-commerce platforms

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is looking to formulate a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for online deliveries of food products through quick commerce and e-commerce platforms to ensure compliance with food safety standards in the entire supply chain. Sources said that the SOP is likely to define parameters for packaging, handling of food products during storage at warehouses, logistics and transportation as well as hygiene practices for food delivery personnel.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/fssai-looking-to-develop-sop-for-online-food-deliveries-forguick-commerce-e-commerce-platforms/article68856330.ece

#### Agriculture

#### Rabi sowing gains pace but southern states lag

As festive season in India draws to a close, rabi sowing has picked up pace in almost all states, with farmers choosing chana, wheat, masur and mustard in most areas as prices of these commodities have stayed firm in the past few months. However, extended rainfall in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu has delayed sowing activities in these southern states.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/rabi-sowing-gains-pace-but-southern-stateslag/articleshow/115190110.cms

#### Rising costs & harsh weather put tea industry's future at risk, warns Indian Tea Association

The economic viability of the tea industry is challenged owing to the unsustainable increase in costs amidst unremunerative prices with adverse weather conditions across Assam and Bengal further aggravating the situation, said Hemant Bangur, chairman of the Indian Tea Association at the annual general meeting of the association. The tea industry in Assam and Bengal, as of September 2024, has experienced a notable crop decline of 63 million kilograms as per available Tea Board data. This situation has neutralized the marginal gains in the domestic prices.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/agriculture/rising-costs-harsh-weather-put-tea-industrysfuture-at-risk-warns-indian-tea-association/articleshow/115185767.cms

# Infrastructure

## India's aircraft fleet set to increase by over 5 times in 20 yrs: Report

The Indian passenger aircraft fleet is expected to increase from 720 planes at the close of 2023 to over 3,800 within the next 20 years, according to the 2024 Cirium Fleet Forecast. This growth will boost Indian airlines' share of the Asia-Pacific passenger fleet from the current 8 per cent to 18 per cent by 2043, according to a Cirium report accessed by Business Today. The firm specialising in aviation analytics also predicts that given India's potential as a key market for commercial aviation, the country has been considered separately from the broader Asia-Pacific region for the first time in this year's forecast.

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/india-s-aircraft-fleet-set-to-increase-by-over-5-times-in-20yrs-report-124111101154\_1.html

# Energy

## India to push for accountability, fair financing, green credit at COP29

India's approach at COP29 focuses on accountability, green credit, fair financing, and incremental goals for its developing economy, multiple delegates said on Monday as the latest edition of the world's most important meeting on climate change kickstarted here. The 29th session of the climate change conference of parties (COP29) is being held from November 11-22 in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/india-to-push-for-accountability-fair-financing-green-credit-atcop29-124111101173 1.html

### Telecom

## TRAI to finalise satcom spectrum allocation norm suggestions by Dec 15

Telecom sector regulator Trai is likely to finalise its recommendation on proposed rules related to spectrum allocation for satellite communications by December 15, an official said on Monday. The government will evaluate recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) and thereafter decide on allocating spectrum to satellite communication companies, which will pave the way for satellite-based broadband services in the country. https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/trai-to-finalise-satcom-spectrum-allocation-norm-suggestions-by-dec-15-12411101527 1.html

## States

#### Andhra Pradesh CM Naidu expresses confidence in achieving 15% growth rate

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, expressed confidence in achieving a 15 per cent growth rate by formulating and implementing various plans. "Creating wealth is possible only by providing various kinds of opportunities following which the living conditions of the poor can be increased by distributing this wealth to them," Chandrababu Naidu said while interacting with various industrial giants during a Task Force meeting on the steps to be taken to achieve the goal of Vision-2047 on Monday. Recalling that a 13.5 per cent growth rate was achieved during the previous TDP regime, the Chief Minister expressed confidence that now 15 per cent growth rate will certainly be achieved. "Our mandate is to spearhead consultations, identify economic growth avenues, assess infrastructure needs, and recommend policy reforms to drive AP's transformation. To achieve our growth target for Andhra Pradesh, we have identified several key priorities across various sectors, spanning infrastructure, entrepreneurship, skills development, MSMEs and manufacturing. The Taskforce shall chart a comprehensive roadmap to drive substantial growth by 2030 and 2047, attract new investments, and position Andhra Pradesh as a leader in economic advancement, laying the foundation for long-term prosperity," CM Naidu said.

https://www.business-standard.com/politics/andhra-pradesh-cm-naidu-expresses-confidence-in-achieving-15growth-rate-124111200115\_1.html

## Healthcare

#### Medical tourism revenue takes a hit after govt stops visas for Bangladeshis

The deadly unrest in Bangladesh, which prompted India to recall its staff from Dhaka high commission and temporarily halt visa issuance there, has dealt a blow to medical tourism back home. Major industry players say that a significant share of their overseas medical tourists declined during the April to September period of the current financial year (H1FY25), with top players seeing a 25-40 per cent drop in Bangladeshi patient volume, which has impacted their revenues considerably. The neighbouring country contributes around 50-60 per cent of India's total medical tourism inflow, according to a recent CareEdge Ratings report.

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/medical-tourism-revenue-takes-a-hit-after-govt-stops-visasfor-bangladeshis-124111100831 1.html

## Indian pharmaceutical market registers over 6% growth in October 2024

The Indian pharmaceutical market (IPM) registered a 6.1 per cent value growth in October 2024, with major therapies showing positive value growth, according to a report by market research body Pharmarack. Among them, cardiac, dermatology, and anti-diabetes therapy areas have shown value growth of 11.5 per cent, 11.1 per cent, and 9.4 per cent, respectively, driving the overall IPM growth. The value growth comes at a time when the IPM has registered a negative volume growth of 1.8 per cent. Commenting on this, Sheetal Sapale, vice-president (commercial) at Pharmarack, said that new introductions and price growth have driven the market growth for this month.

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/indian-pharmaceutical-market-registers-over-6-growth-inoctober-2024-124111101175 1.html

#### India needs to expand local vaccine manufacturing, research: GTRI report

India needs to expand its local vaccine manufacturing and research to give better control over safety of these pharma products, think tank GTRI said on Monday. The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) also suggested the government to launch an investigation to track all adverse health events post-vaccination as this could help make future vaccine rollouts more transparent, safe and effective. "Expanding local vaccine manufacturing and research can give India better control over vaccine safety, ensuring vaccines meet local needs and are tailored to the population's health characteristics," it said in a report.

https://www.business-standard.com/health/india-needs-to-expand-local-vaccine-manufacturing-research-gtrireport-124111101382\_1.html

# External

# India-Russia Strengthen Trade Ties with Focus on Local Currency Transactions and Economic Cooperation

Trade relations between India and Russia are seeing a renewed focus on local currency transactions and the balance of trade. Speaking at the India-Russia Business Forum in Mumbai, External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar underscored the importance of conducting trade in national currencies, emphasizing that this approach holds significant relevance given current global economic pressures.

https://www.financialexpress.com/policy/economy-india-russia-strengthen-trade-ties-with-focus-on-localcurrency-transactions-and-economic-cooperation-3662256/

#### Collective effort required to achieve \$2 trn exports target by 2030: Goyal

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday said collective effort is required to achieve the "big" exports target of \$ 2 trillion by 2030. Addressing the annual convocation of IIFT (Indian Institute of Foreign Trade) through video conference, he expressed confidence in achieving the target. "Let us partner to achieve the export target of \$ 2 trillion by 2030, given that we will cross \$ 800 billion this (fiscal) year. We will have to really put in a lot of effort collectively to achieve \$ 2 trillion. It will not happen by chance, it will happen by choice and I am confident that we can achieve this big target," Goyal said.

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/collective-effort-required-to-achieve-2-trn-exports-target-by-2030-goyal-12411101087 1.html

# Five WTO nations allege India provides excessive market support to wheat, rice

Five WTO members - Argentina, Australia, Canada, Ukraine and the US - have alleged that India provides excessive market support to wheat and rice which distorts global trade. In a communication of the World Trade Organization (WTO), these countries claimed that India's apparent MPS (market price support) for rice appears to have been over 87 per cent of the value of production (VoP) in each of the two covered years (2021-23) for which India has notified data to the multi-lateral body.

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/five-wto-nations-allege-india-providesexcessive-market-support-to-wheat-rice/articleshow/115186508.cms

## India calls for urgent UNSC reform, stresses need for representation

India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN), Parvathaneni Harish, on Monday stressed the need for UN Security Council reform, noting that despite decades of discussions, there have been no significant changes since 1965. Addressing the Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly in New York, Harish said, "As we begin this year's deliberations, we note that the reform of the UN Security Council was once again identified as a critical and immediate priority at the summit of the future discussions by our leaders. However, in spite of several decades of collective reiteration of this sentiment, it is disheartening that we have had no results to show in this regard since 1965 when the Council was last expanded in the non-permanent category alone." Harish pointed to three key factors hindering progress: the ineffective intergovernmental negotiation process, the insistence on consensus by some countries, and the lack of representation for the Global South.

https://www.business-standard.com/india-news/india-calls-for-urgent-unsc-reform-stresses-need-forrepresentation-124111200048 1.html